

IMPI-50 Symposium Recap

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Over 100 attendees from 16 countries took part in the 50th Annual Microwave Power Symposium (IMPI 50). The Int'l Microwave Power Institute (IMPI) hosted this milestone event from June 21-23, 2016 at the Caribe Royale All-Suite Hotel and Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, USA. The three-day event featured 50 presentations on a wide area of topics including: Solid-State Applications, Dielectric Properties, Medical Applications, Food Safety and Standards, Agriculture, Industrial Applications, Microwave Equipment, Plasma and Magnetrons, Food Science and Technology. The Technical Program Committee (TPC) Co-chairs were Dr. Ulrich Erle of Nestle and Dr. Kadir Aslan of Morgan State University; IMPI President, Bob Schiffmann, chaired the Food Science and Technology Program Committee.

The conference kicked off with a special "Spotlight Session" featuring talks by the heads of four of the major international microwave associations and other pioneers in our field. Spotlight session speakers included Dr. Cristina Leonelli (AMPERE), Dr. Tian Ren Ji (Chinese Microwave Association), Dr. Satoshi Horikoshi (Japan Society of Electromagnetic Wave Energy Applications), Ms. Jennipher Marshall-Jenkinson (MTA-UK), Dr. Ricky Metaxas (AC Metaxas Associates), and Prof. Stuart Nelson (USDA/ARS).

IMPI 50 featured two keynote presentations: "*The Use of Microwave Power for Treatment of Cancer*" by Dr. Augustine Cheung of Medifocus (Fig. 1), and "*Evolution and Revolution of Microwave Technology in the Commercial Kitchen*" by Dr. James Pool, President of TurboChef Technologies Inc. (Fig. 2). Nine Invited Speakers were selected to share their work during the Symposium. Dozens of papers were presented, via oral and poster presentation, over the course of the 3 days.

Two short courses were offered just prior to the start of the Symposium: "*Microwaves 101, The Fundamentals of Microwave Heating*"

which was taught by Mr. Bob Schiffmann, and "*Introduction to Multiphysics Modeling in Microwave Power Engineering*," which was instructed by Dr. Vadim Yakovlev.



Figure 1. Dr. Augustine Cheung of Medifocus during Keynote Address at IMPI 50.



Figure 2. Keynote presenter Dr. James Pool, President of TurboChef Technologies.

Dr. Ricky Metaxas was presented with an Honorary IMPI Fellow Award. Ms. Deepali Jain of Washington State University (Fig. 3) won the Student Competition for best oral presentation for her work, "*A Computer Simulation Model for Microwave Assisted Thermal Pasteurization Systems.*" Ms. Brittney Gordon of Morgan State University (Fig. 4) was the winner of the Student Competition for best poster presentation for her paper "*Crystallization of Lysozyme on Nanoparticle Surfaces using Monomode Microwave Heating.*"



Figure 3. Ms. Deepali Jain, the winner of the best oral presentation student competition, and Dr. Ulrich Erle, IMPI-50 TPC Chairman.



Figure 4. Ms. Brittney Gordon, the winner of the best poster student competition.

IMPI 50 boasted the highest number of exhibitors the conference has seen in many years. Exhibitors included: Ampleon, Ferrite Microwave Technologies, Graphic Packaging International, L3 Electron Devices, MKS, Muegge, PSC, Richardson Electronics, Taylor and Francis Publishing and the RF Energy Alliance.

The Symposium offered a variety of formal and informal networking opportunities, including a Welcome Reception on the first evening and a popular Group dinner at a local restaurant on the second evening. The Caribe Royale resort proved to be a wonderful backdrop for this milestone event (Fig. 5).

Sponsors of the event included the Gold Sponsor: Muegge GmbH; Silver Sponsors: Richardson Electronics and Ampleon; Bronze Sponsors: Ferrite Microwave Technologies, Liverpool John Moore’s University and BEST Research. Over a dozen “Friends of IMPI” also made financial contributions to make the Symposium a success.



Figure 5. Attendees before the Group Dinner (photo by Ulrich Erle)

Printed and electronic copies of the Proceedings from the IMPI-50 Symposium are available for purchase at www.impi.org.

The 51st Annual Microwave Power Symposium (IMPI 51) will be held June 20-22, 2017 at the Sonesta Hotel - Coconut Grove in Miami, FL, USA. Additional details on this event, as well as our Webinar Series and Fall Short Course can be found at <http://www.impi.org/>

About the Author



Molly Poisant has served as the Executive Director of the Int’l Microwave Power Institute (IMPI) since 2010. In this role, she oversees member services, program planning, and business development as well as the day-to-day operation of the Institute. She

has over 20 years of experience in event operations, business development, legislative affairs and sponsorship sales having worked for two former Governors and several U.S. and international technology conferences. She received her Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Longwood University.